

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AVIATION

June 28, 2006

10:30 a.m.

Location: Executive Tower Building, State Capital
1700 West Washington, 2nd Floor
Phoenix, AZ

MINUTES

Attending: Bonnie Allin, Mike Covalt, Barbara Harper, Stacy Howard, Barclay Dick, Michael Klein, Ronnie Lopez, John Miller (for C.A. Howlett), Robert Littlefield

Absent: Victor Mendez, John Mills, David Krietor, Richard Bethurem

Note: *Ronnie Lopez left mid-meeting*

I Opening Comments

Bonnie Allin opened the meeting at 10:35 am.

II Review and approval of the January 18, 2006 meeting minutes

Robert Littlefield motion for approval. Barbara Harper second. Unanimously approved.

III Sub Council Reports

Airport Capacity –

Have not received all the surveys back.

Progress for wind farms – Dr. Tom Acker – Dir of Substantial Energy Solutions would be able to provide presentation on turbin towers. Dept of Defense is currently studying wind turbines and how they interfere with defense. FAA is putting applications for wind farms on hold for now.

Land Use –

Grant assurances from FAA do contain land use planning element.

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FAA in Washington DC is handling all grant enforcement.

Part 77 Airspace Obstruction Evaluation process permits FAA to objects to tall structures, but the airports bear the burden.

Ray Boucher is mailing out OE notices to airports. All airports should be monitoring on their own.

AAAE has worked to make it more difficult for FAA to conduct an enforcement action. Movement afoot to force the agency to go through further process to withhold discretionary dollars for airport in non-compliance. *Bonnie Allin corrected information provided by Tony Garcia from the FAA. The AAAE is representing the airport operators in stopping arbitrary actions on airports which do not follow publish rules and guidance.*

If the state wants to be more proactive, the FAA can't help. FAA only occasionally writes letters regarding compatible use issues.

Recommended work plan for the Committee – committee members have received copies of land use statutes that exist in other states and will continue revue of these statues in Arizona and bring them before the full committee for comments and recommendations. Also, large tracts of lands surrounding airports are owned by the State of Arizona. Committee will meet with State Land Department concerning compatible land use at the time of land sales.

Part 77 processes has been rewritten. FAA has not been helpful to airports regarding Land Use.

IV Discussion of Arizona's Aviation Funding

Aeronautics presentation -

Barclay Dick provided a presentation regarding the Aviation Fund. There is a misperception that the Aeronautics Division is allowing the cash balance of the fund to grow along with the misperception that to reduce the fund balance, the Aeronautics Division needs to either issue more or larger grants to airports.

The growth of the cash balance can be misleading. To reduce the cash balance of the Aviation Fund, we don't need to issue more or larger grants to airports; we need to get airports to complete their grant-funded projects more expeditiously.

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Even if there is success in finding processes and procedures that permit the more expedient expenditure of grant funds, Aeronautics will still be constrained by the Legislative appropriation process. To reduce the cash balance in the Aviation Fund, the Legislature has to appropriate a bigger budget.

Council can recommend that the Legislature look at what is reflected in the cash balance or a constitutional amendment or an aviation trust fund.

Arizona Airports Association presentation -

Arizona Airports Association – Dennis Wiss, Second Vice President – Jeff Tripp
AZAA

AZAA would like to propose the following items for consideration:

1. Work with State Financial Division to establish an accounting system similar to the State Highway Fund.
2. Create a check register
3. Petition the Transportation Board to allow Aeronautics Director the autonomy to approve multiple grants up to a certain amount
4. Support increased funding for the Grand Canyon Airport
5. Explore a constitutional amendment to safeguard the Aviation Fund
6. Increase ADOT Aeronautics personnel staffing to assist in the administration of grants and programs
7. Increase the annual Pavement Maintenance Management program funding from \$3 to \$4 million annually and to increase the scope of the projects covered under the PMMP
8. Institution of a state wide bi annual or tri annual airport striping and marking program
9. Revise the per airport cap from 10% of the total aviation fund to 10% of the anticipated per year Fund revenues
10. Institute a state wide program wherein Aeronautics would develop and administer a program to contract the inspections and maintenance of the Automated Weather Observing Systems (AWOS) at the various airports throughout the state
11. Develop and administer a program to provide mobile ARFF training to the airports in compliance with FAR Part 193
12. Expand ADOT Loan Program
13. Work with the FAA to develop a program wherein the State would fund project designs in anticipation of Federal project funding thus eliminating the delay between design and construction when a project is wholly Federally funded

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14. Institute a program wherein grant funds awarded to airports but where no activity has occurred or less than 50% of the grant funds have been spent within three or four years, would be returned to the State with a Memorandum of Understanding, or similar, that the funds returned to the State would be reallocated to the Airport/City when needed

Discussion of Finance Committee –

Bonnie Allin, Stacy Howard and Mike Covalt will be on the finance subcommittee. Question as to whether the council has the power to vote since there is no longer a quorum present due to Mr. Lopez absence. Aeronautics staff will question the Governor's office as to voting rules without a quorum.

V Discussion of the Council Extension

Barclay's staff will check on formal mechanism of asking for an extension on the Council. Also ask about an optional way of voting.

VI Call to the Audience

Michael Rossi – discussed perceptions on the Aviation Fund. Recommend uniform accounting system for fund (show complete picture of fund). Readily understandable format that comes out on a regular basis.

VII Scheduling of Next Meeting

September 20, 2006 – Phoenix – 10:30 am – Executive Tower – ***meeting was scheduled at 1:30 due to reservation for room.***

VIII Adjournment

Bonnie Allin closed the meeting at 12:13 pm. Bonnie Allin motion to adjourn. Stacy Howard second. Unanimously approved.